

It violates the Pressler amendment, and it contributes extensively to more instability in Southeast Asia.

Overall though the conference report is a good report and that is why I supported it.

AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE BEING MISLED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. DUNCAN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, this House voted last week and the week before for a huge increase in spending on Medicare.

I repeat—we voted for and passed legislation providing for a huge increase in Medicare.

In fact, federal spending overall will go up by many billions every year under the budgets passed by both the House and the Senate. James K. Glasman, the Washington Post columnist, referred to it as the "no-cut budget." These budgets simply attempt to slow the growth in federal spending to about 3 percent a year.

When you are spending in the range of \$1.6 trillion to more than \$2 trillion during the 7 years of this plan, a 3 percent increase is \$50 to \$60 billion a year.

That is billion with a B—and even one billion dollars is a lot of money—and these budgets—the Republican budgets—will increase Federal spending \$50 to \$60 billion every year.

We voted for a huge increase in spending on Medicare—about 7½ percent a year—more than twice the rate of inflation.

Yet all we hear about are cuts—cuts—cuts.

We are told that these mega-billion dollar increases are draconian cuts.

Why—well the main reason is that the Federal bureaucrats who got 15 to 20 percent increases routinely for so many years really feel that 2 or 3 percent increases are cuts.

The first Reagan budget—fiscal 1982—was \$581 billion. We almost triple that figure now—an almost 300 percent increase in just 15 years.

I don't think anyone believes that we can sit back and let Federal spending keep exploding like it has without having a major economic crash a few years down the road.

Yet the American people are being misled when they are being told about all these so called cuts. A very false impression is being created.

In fact, I have been in and around politics since I was a small boy, and I do not believe I have ever seen the lies, the distortions, the propaganda, that we have now.

Let me give just a couple of examples. Bruce Babbitt, the Secretary of the Interior, has become the most blatantly political Secretary in the history of the Department.

He has been going all over the country attacking Republicans even at one time using extremist rhetoric compar-

ing us to the Japanese and their sneak attack at Pearl Harbor.

He came to my area of east Tennessee and said Republicans were gutting the national parks, and he has been quoted as saying that there is some sort of Republican hit list to close as many as 200 parks.

What are the facts. Well, last week, National Park Service Director Roger Kennedy admitted under oath that he knew of no such list and no plan to close any parks.

Because of Secretary Babbitt, and because of an incomplete job by reporters, people in my area think the Great Smoky Mountains have been cut.

Well, the truth is that spending on the Great Smokies has gone up from \$6.5 to \$10.3 million in the last 10 years—and increases of 64 percent, about twice the rate of inflation over that period.

Another increase, a little over 2 percent is scheduled for this fiscal year. Now I wish we could get more, but the point is that there have been no cuts, and in fact, national park spending has gone way up over the past 10 or 15 years.

Another example—and there are hundreds—former Speaker Foley said on the PBS national news Friday night that Republicans had cut the earned income tax credit. Once again—not so.

The earned income tax credit cost this country \$1.3 billion in 1975; \$2.5 billion in 1985. Then it began exploding. We are now spending \$23 billion each year on this program, and it goes to over \$27 billion under the Republican budget—once again—no cut, and in fact a several billion dollar increase. Another example—spending on student loans go up from \$24 to \$36 billion—yet some are calling this a cut.

Most of this outcry about cuts is coming from bureaucrats or fat cat Federal contractors who are having to justify their spending or show the results for the first time in many years—if ever.

And it turns out that most of this spending is doing little good for the intended beneficiaries and instead is really benefiting only bureaucrats or government contractors.

One example, and once again—there are hundreds—the Job Corps Program—again a program that is not—repeat—not being cut.

Counting all costs, we are now spending \$25,000 per year per Job Corps student. If we told one of these students that we were spending this much on them, they would be shocked.

Fifty percent drop out in the first 6 months. Seven months is the average stay. Only 12 percent end up in jobs for which they were trained.

We could give each of these students a \$1,000-a-month allowance, send them to an expensive private school and still save money. They would probably think they had died and gone to heaven.

Who really benefits from this billion plus program—once again the bureaucrats and few politically connected Federal contractors.

There are two points here Madam Speaker. One is Federal spending is not being cut, and for one specific program—Medicare—we have voted to give it huge increases.

The second point, when you hear about cuts, ask two questions. Who is screaming about the cuts—it is almost always some bureaucrat who is working for the program or some contractor who is making money off of it.

The second question—ask them specifically how much they got under the first Reagan budget 15 years ago and how much will they get during this fiscal year. With very few exceptions, you will find that almost every Federal department, agency, or program has received huge increases since that time.

Ask questions—don't be deceived.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. MALONEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight, the last day of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, to ensure that our attention to the elimination of breast cancer will continue, because one month of awareness is not enough, when over 47,000 women will die this year from breast cancer.

Our messages this evening are now without hope. In the last few years we have made substantial progress on breast cancer research, diagnosis and treatment. The gains regarding breast cancer are considerable. In this year's budget alone, well over \$400 million is dedicated to breast cancer research.

□ 1900

Mammograms have decreased the death rate from breast cancer for women over 50 by 30 percent. Unfortunately the losses relating to breast cancer continue to rise and compel us to continue our battle.

In 1983, Madam Speaker, the odds of a woman developing breast cancer were 1 in 10. Today they are 1 in 8. This year there will be 182,000 new cases diagnosed. In New York City alone approximately 8,500 cases of breast cancer will be reported this year, and in the decade of the 1990's, Madam Speaker, estimates say that 1.5 million cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed and nearly 500,000 women will die of this disease.

Unfortunately an amendment to the Medicare legislation that would have expanded Medicare to fully cover annual mammograms for Medicare beneficiaries over the age of 49 failed. This denial of services is yet another reason the President must veto the Reconciliation Act and negotiate to have this AMA-approved coverage put back in. Obviously in the interest of all women's lives we need to cut our losses and increase our gains in breast cancer

screening, prevention, and treatment. We must work together to eradicate breast cancer, not just raise awareness. To reach that goal we need to fight to insure increased research into the cause of and treatments for breast cancer, improved access for all women to high-quality screening diagnoses, and treatment and inclusion of the wisdom and courage of breast cancer survivors, and the influencing of research clinical trials and national policy.

For the approximately 2,750 New York City women who will die this year from breast cancer and the thousand who will be diagnosed, I call on my colleagues to join me in a call to action on breast cancer awareness. Say it, fight it, cure it, fund it.

Madam Speaker, I would like to add into the RECORD two statements from colleagues of mine from the great State of New York who could not be here tonight but who would like their remarks in the record, the gentleman from New York [Mr. KING] and the gentleman from New York [Mr. FRISA].

Mr. KING, Madam Speaker, as you know, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. That is why I am pleased to be joining many of my colleagues this evening to participate in a Special Order on raising breast cancer awareness.

While breast cancer is a serious problem in communities all across the country, it has enacted a particularly terrible toll in my home area of Long Island. Between 1984 and 1988, the breast cancer mortality rate for one group of women in Nassau County was 16 percent higher than that of New York State and 36 percent higher than that of the Nation. There is scarcely a family on Long Island that has not been affected by this dread disease.

These alarming statistics prompted Congressional action in 1993. Working closely with other concerned Members of Congress, the Long Island delegation was successful in securing authorization for the Long Island Breast Cancer Study Project. Under the auspices of the National Cancer Institute, several of New York's finest research institutions are actively investigating the impact that the environment may have on Long Island's high rate of breast cancer. I am very pleased that this landmark Study is now underway.

Earlier this year, I was approached by fellow Long Islander Diane Sackett Nannery who informed me of her crusade to win approval of a special Pink Ribbon Breast Cancer Awareness Stamp. I immediately enlisted the support of 101 of our colleagues in sending a letter to Postmaster General Marvin Runyon urging approval of the breast cancer stamp. As a result of our efforts and the tireless determination of Diane Nannery, the Postal Service has announced that it will issue a breast cancer awareness stamp in 1996.

A major goal of raising awareness about breast cancer is to encourage women to get screening mammographies. This procedure is simple, safe and the best tool available for detecting a potential problem. The National Cancer Institute recently initiated a new service designed to provide information about FDA-approved mammography facilities. By dialing 1-800-422-6237 women will receive information on the facility nearest them. Through this service, I was able to obtain information on the 59 facilities located in Nassau County.

At a time when many Federal programs are being reduced or eliminated, the new Republican leadership has identified breast cancer research funding as a top priority. Included in the fiscal year 1996 Labor, Health and Human Services and Related Agencies Appropriations bill (H.R. 2127), is a 4-percent increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health. These additional resources will result in more money for breast cancer research at the National Cancer Institute. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that this critical funding receives final approval from Congress in the days ahead.

We have only just begun to fight the scourge of breast cancer. I am committed to doing all that I can to fund research, increase awareness, and make mammography screening available and accessible to women all across the country. The battle against this disease will continue to be a top priority.

Mr. FRISA, Madam Speaker, I want to take this opportunity during Breast Cancer Awareness month to thank my colleague from New York, Representative MALONEY, for organizing this important tribute to women across the country who have battled this dreadful disease.

Unfortunately, my home of Long Island has the distinction of having one of the highest rates of breast cancer in the Nation. Nationally, this disease takes the lives of 46,000 women. Each year, my home, Nassau County, loses about 300 women a year to this deadly disease.

While great strides have been made in recent years toward understanding the causes of breast cancer, and finding better ways to treat this disease, much work still needs to be done.

I want to take this opportunity to commend the efforts of Dr. Marilie Gammon and her team, who are working tirelessly on the Long Island Breast Cancer Study Project. They have recently announced plans for a comprehensive study into environmental causes of breast cancer.

Her team will be going into the homes of every woman on Long Island who is diagnosed with breast cancer to take water, soil, and dust samples in determining if there is a common link.

I know the toll this disease takes on the women of Long Island and their families. My mother was diagnosed with this disease, and is winning her battle against it. But too many women are losing this battle every day.

We need to support these women, and the friends and family who stand behind them as they battle breast cancer. While it is important that we set aside October for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the efforts of these women must be recognized every day.

Madam Speaker, it is my sincere hope that in the near future we will have a special order, not to honor the survivors and remember the victims, but to celebrate the discovery of a cure for this devastating disease.

Mr. FARR, Madam Speaker, I am honored to be able to talk on this subject with my colleagues.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

First of all, let's look at the numbers: By the end of this year, an estimated 17,600 California women will be diagnosed.

Four thousand four hundred California women will die.

Breast cancer is an epidemic against our wives, daughters, sisters, and mothers.

During the 1970's and 80's the incidence increased in older women by 49 percent.

Virtually all women are at risk for developing breast cancer during their lives.

But October is not Breast Cancer Awareness Month to let everyone know how many women will die, it is awareness on how to survive.

How can we protect ourselves and the ones that we love?

Through two steps:

(1) Early detection, and

(2) Increased funding for medical research.

Early detection can be achieved through screening with mammographs and clinical breast examinations.

That means making mammographs available to all women regardless of cost.

The recent cuts in Medicare and Medicaid will definitely have a terrible effect on poorer older women who are in desperate need for these tests.

Increased funding is also needed.

In 1993, the Department of Defense received an appropriation of \$210 million for breast cancer research.

The National Institutes of Health plans to spend \$426 million for breast cancer research.

In 1995, the funding was completely zeroed out.

These amounts are not sufficient, and I will tell you why . . .

No major treatment has been introduced.

No proven prevention methods have emerged.

The mortality rate has remained constant.

We must work together to promote early detection and to achieve increased research funding in our fight against breast cancer.

Let's extend awareness beyond October.

We owe it to the women we love.

Mr. LAZIO of New York, Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. We have all heard the startling figures surrounding breast cancer; 2.6 million women are living with this terrible disease today. Breast cancer will strike 1 in 8 women during their lifetimes. An estimated 183,000 new cases will be diagnosed this year.

While we are making gains against this terrible killer, much remains to be done. Breast cancer is still the most common form of cancer among women in the United States; yet its cause is unknown and its cure remains undetermined. Today, our strongest tools in the battle against this disease are increased awareness and continued research.

Continued funding to expand research is crucial. Projects such as the Long Island Breast Cancer Study Project [LIBCSP] are essential. The LIBCSP, in cooperation with the National Cancer Institute, examines possible links between breast cancer and environmental and occupational factors on Long Island, NY, where instances of breast cancer are unusually high. My colleagues in the New York delegation and I worked hard to support this project that may someday help control the factors that lead to this disease, not only in New York, but across the country.

Early detection and treatment are the most effective methods of combatting breast cancer and increasing a woman's chances of survival. Despite these facts, many women do not

know how to detect the early warning signs, or to perform a routine self-exam. Too many women living with the disease are not aware of the treatment options available to them. Breast Cancer Awareness Month offers a special opportunity to focus public attention on various treatment options, and offer more women information that is vital to their well being.

This week, the Caucus for Women's Issues will be sending a strong signal to the administration on the importance of increased awareness. I have agreed to join my colleagues in signing a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Shalala, which calls for a "blueprint for action" to provide women with information on treatment options. The information campaign that we are recommending would serve to reduce the dramatic disconnect between the type of treatment women say they prefer and that which they currently receive. It is time to get the message out that there are viable alternatives to the mastectomy procedure.

Through information we can help women learn to detect breast cancer in its early and most treatable stages. Through information we can enlighten those who have already been diagnosed as to their options. Through research we move closer both to understanding the causes of breast cancer and to finding a cure. Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a step in this direction, but as this month draws to a close I would like to encourage continued focus throughout our Nation on breast cancer and its treatment.

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It is a month dedicated to increasing American's awareness of the importance of early detection and diagnosis in the fight against breast cancer. Mr. Speaker, according to the National Cancer Institute Nassau and Suffolk Counties rank first and fourth, respectively, in breast cancer mortality rates among the 116 largest counties in the United States. This staggering statistic cannot be ignored. Too many of our mothers, daughters, and sisters have been afflicted with this destructive disease and it is important that we educate women on the importance of self-checks and mammograms in order to combat the high incidence of breast cancer.

Long Island has some of the highest rates of breast cancer in the Nation and a high death rate among women diagnosed with breast cancer in Nassau and Suffolk County. The Long Island Breast Cancer Study Project will look at exposures to contaminated drinking water, sources of air pollution, electromagnetic fields, pesticides and other toxic chemicals, and hazardous and municipal waste. Research is a valuable instrument in trying to understand this devastating disease.

Mr. Speaker, over this past year I have had the honor of working with Diane Nannery, a resident of Manorville and breast cancer survivor, on increasing breast cancer awareness across the country. Working together with thousands of concerned women in Suffolk County, we were successful in getting a breast cancer awareness stamp to be created by the United States Postal Service for 1996. The breast cancer awareness stamp will serve as a constant reminder to all Americans of the urgency for awareness of this terrible disease. Every time a book of stamps is purchased at the post office, people will be reminded of the urgency for early detection of breast cancer in

order to save millions of women's lives. The stamp will be printed sometime next summer.

Mr. Speaker, in 1996, approximately 184,300 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed and 44,300 women will die from this disease. Breast Cancer Awareness Month is dedicated to those who have survived breast cancer and those who have not. It is a time to make America aware of breakthroughs in breast cancer treatment, research, and testing. I am honored to have spoken before this body on the importance of awareness in battling breast cancer, and my heart goes out to those families who have lost a loved one to this destructive disease.

Mr. STOKES. Madam Speaker, I rise in observance of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. In recognition of this occasion, I ask my colleagues to take time out to assess the impact that this devastating disease has had on their constituents, colleagues, families, and friends—for no one is immune to this life threatening disease.

According to the American Cancer Society, over 180,000 new cases are diagnosed each year, approximately 1 every 3 minutes. One person will be diagnosed with breast cancer just during the time span of my statement. Even more devastating, 44,000 women and 300 men are expected to die from the disease. Among women, breast cancer is the most common cancer.

While breast cancer mortality rates have declined 5.5 percent from 1989 to 1992, due to advances in therapy and screening programs, this decline was only seen among whites. Breast cancer deaths for African-American females increased 2.6 percent. We must find the cure for and cause of the mortality differential for this devastating disease. Equally important, we must ensure that all Americans benefit from advances in breast cancer biomedical research, treatment, diagnosis, early detection, and prevention. Early detection is key to increasing the chance of cure and the benefits from more effective treatment options for the disease.

Madam Speaker, while our and our colleagues' families continue to have access to life saving screening, treatment, and prevention health care services for breast cancer, just a few days ago, here in this House, our Republican colleagues celebrated the passage of their legislation to strip those same critical life saving health care services away from millions of families by dismantling Medicaid and Medicare. That unconscionable act will have a negative impact on the progress the Nation has begun to make in ensuring that all women receive early diagnosis, screening, and appropriate treatment for breast cancer.

My heart goes out to the Nation's health care organizations and the hundreds of thousands of volunteers who have worked long and hard to achieve that progress. I applaud their steadfast leadership and commitment to expediting the search for a cure. I ask that they lend their support to me and my colleagues who are working to overturn the Republican assault on the health of the American people. It is just inhumane to force families to see their loved ones go without the critical health care services that they so desperately need.

Madam Speaker, all women must have access to the life saving screening and treatment they need to conquer breast cancer.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on an issue that is of deep

concern to all Americans. Breast cancer is a dreaded and devastating disease which has reached epidemic proportions. Currently, there are 2.6 million women living with breast cancer in the United States. In 1995 alone, an estimated 182,000 new cases will be diagnosed and over 46,000 women will die of this disease.

In the past 5 years, breast cancer research has received strong congressional support. As I noted earlier this year, I am proud, as chair of the Congressional Women's Caucus Task Force on Women's Health, that we have increased research funding by 65 percent. We have begun to make important progress including the discovery of a breast cancer gene, the declining mortality rates for some segments of the population and Medicare coverage of mammograms for early detection.

Despite the progress we have made in the past 5 years, our work is not done. There is still no cure for breast cancer, there is no way to prevent it, and the treatments available continue to be invasive and damaging to the women undergoing them.

It is therefore of utmost importance that we reaffirm our commitment to further breast cancer research. Too many women still suffer and die and too many families are left struggling with their loss.

Today, on the final day of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we remember all the women, men and children whose lives have been touched by breast cancer. This year, I have lost two young friends to this disease and while their loss can never be compensated, I can and do pledge to work to ensure the Federal commitment remains strong and that we continue to devote all possible resources to winning the battle against this disease.

SERIOUS QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED BEFORE WE COMMIT TROOPS TO BOSNIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PRYCE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. CHABOT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, I am taking time tonight, along with some of my colleagues, to talk about what I fear could become one of the most serious foreign policy blunders in memory.

Yesterday this House sent a resounding message to President Clinton. The message was simple: Do not send American ground troops to Bosnia without the approval of Congress. And I want to point out to those critics in the administration that this was a bipartisan message. Three hundred fifteen Members, including half of the President's own party in this body, voted in favor of this sense-of-the-House resolution.

Yesterday's vote was a first step, and I want to emphasize first step, in this matter, and now I am confident that this House will take even stronger action in the coming days. Our colleagues, the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. HEFLEY] and the gentleman from California [Mr. ROHRBACHER], have introduced a binding legislative bill that will require the Clinton administration to seek the authorization of Congress before deploying any ground troops